

# RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION established 1939

President: Linda Arnold

Newsletter: Diana Patton

January 2013 Newsletter

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## January Happy New Year Greetings!

And we have big news—for at our next meeting, Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Somerset County/Bridgewater Library at 7:30 pm, RVAA will see the change from our present **President, Linda Arnold**, to our new **President, Alka Dalal**. As you know, Linda has been a great President for all of fifteen years. Yes, your editor said *fifteen years*. And so—you will all want to come out and **thank her for her many years** of keeping RVAA going, and also to congratulate Alka and wish her all the best.

As an added incentive we will have **Anthony Galati** with us as our demonstrator. Anthony says, “I will do a demo head and shoulders oil painting portrait with someone from your group as a volunteer model.” How cool is that! Anthony has been drawing and painting for as long as he can remember. It was a big moment when he realized that he could paint with oils, like so many of the sci-fi/fantasy book cover artists whose work he had admired at the local bookstore. Oils had long seemed to be the ultimate pinnacle of art mediums, providing the potential to harness such immense visual power in the images a person can create. Gaining access to wield such a medium led to a feeling of unlimited creative freedom. Now that he makes art full time, Anthony's days are spent painting commissioned portraits of Fido, creating gallery nudes and doing plein air landscapes in Central Park. A few of his favorite artists are Renoir, Bouguereau, Chagall, Charles Dana Gibson, Joseph Cornell, H. R. Giger, Beksinski, Linda Bergkvist, Jeremy Lipking and Brad Kunkle. Anthony artist statement reads, “Some form of creating is a crucial part of anyone's life. Anthony is constantly thinking about where art is, has been and will go, and is constantly searching for more in his own art and in the work of others. He is increasingly attracted to the mysterious over the straight forward. Anthony lives for the moments when something great comes to him, and the ones where he can bring them back for everyone else to see.”

Come one, come all---**Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm**---we will miss you, Linda! And we all thank you for the 15 years of work and good humor you've given us.

**Schedule of demos**—these are exciting people with exciting things to show us; we owe it to them to come out and learn something new, by witnessing exciting demos.

2/25 .... Lena Shiffman...watercolors (and illustration)

3/18 .... Andrea Gianchiglia...animal portraiture

4/22 .... Bob Heyer...watercolors

5/29 .... (Wednesday, because of Memorial Day) Kathy Rupff collage art combined with watercolor and more

RVAA would love to have **Hospitality and Publicity Chairpersons**. Hospitality really just involves sending a list around to get volunteers to bring refreshments, and then reminding them to do so. Publicity can probably send publicity out online. Do please consider volunteering. Please call Alka Dalal at 908-393-6561

And RVAA thanks **Alka Dalal** for chairing our annual **Holiday Dinner**—it was a fun time for all. We did it a different way; we could all order whatever we wanted, and it worked out just great. We had our usual gift exchange, and a new Christmas season story by Diana Patton. We missed Doug and we missed Eleanor and her poinsettia story and candy canes. Actually a lot of you missed a really good dinner and great camaraderie; do come next year. Our dinner always sort of starts the Christmas/Holiday season in a lovely way.



Speaking of **Eleanor Demott**....she has not been well for some time, but is now at home—you might want to send her a card—9 Adams Street, Somerville, NJ 08876. We know she'd enjoy hearing from you.

Our Holiday Show at the Somerset County Library included Nancy Boney, Susan Boyd, Alka Dalal, Sherry Engelberg, Amy Erdman, Bill Gilbert, Rita Gorky, Diana Patton, Olga Phelps, Donna Souren, and Rosemary Zangara, and a special In Memoriam oil painting and biography of our friend and former RVAA member(who passed away) Carol Levasseur. With the new rules of the library we were not allowed to post the prices, which your chairperson (me) feels led to sales of only \$93. We did have everyone's phone number in several places as well as the fact that the work was for sale. But you know that people shy away from contacting artists about prices. So.....next year, if the library still won't allow posting prices, your editor will post the prices and paintings on our website, and give out that fact; prospective customers can then use the internet at the library or on their smart phones and immediately find out the prices. It would also help to have more show sitters and people in the show.....High seller was Olga Phelps, and RVAA thanks Treasurer Barbara Fiorentino for receiving the monies and passing on the money to our sellers. *You do visit our website occasionally, right?* [www.raritanvalleyarts.org](http://www.raritanvalleyarts.org)

Former member **Jim Laubach**—you'll remember Jim and his lovely work—drawings, watercolors, oils, and his gentle, courtly manner—has a favor to ask us. Jim was also on the Bridgewater Township Arts Commission for years. He is now in need of Mylar, or Mylar paper, as a protection for his work (or even some suggestions for something similar—not the plastic envelope watercolorists use, but something more, and also suitable to perhaps protect, store, and save framed work) Jim also has a full-size wooden easel arrangement and he would be willing to exchange the easel for a roll of the Mylar. Please phone Jim or even mail him—908/725-2747, or Jim Laubach, 44 Charlotte Drive, Bridgewater, 08807. Even if you have any info on Mylar paper or protection for paintings, please phone or mail him with any information or suggestions. Thank you very much!

### **One Day Drawing Workshop, February 16**

Farmstead welcomes new faculty member, **Anthony Galati**, who will teach a one day workshop, Drawing A Still Life. This class will focus on understanding light, shadow, negative space, plotting points, structure and shading. It will take place on Saturday, February 16 from 1 - 3 PM. This class is particularly well suited for the beginner and intermediate student; advanced level also welcome. Ages teen to adult. Cost is \$30 per person, bring your own pad and drawing materials. Contact [anthonygalati@gmail.com](mailto:anthonygalati@gmail.com) to find out more about registering.

**Create your own website using free online tools:** This course will be offered on Two Sundays: February 3rd and February 10th, 12 - 3 pm, at the Katonah Art Center, 131 Bedford Road, Katonah, NY Call the center to register: (914) 232-4843. Would you like to present your work to the world? In this hands-on workshop participants will create and publish their own website using free online tools. Participants will be guided through the use of free online templates, and a free web-hosting service, to create a professional looking website....For complete workshop description and for testimonials please visit: [www.ArtistAdvisory.com/workshops.html](http://www.ArtistAdvisory.com/workshops.html) .

## **MEMBER NEWS**

**LINDA ARNOLD** currently has work in the New Jersey Water Color Society's Associates' Show in the Mayo Gallery of the Morristown Community Theater, in Morristown, NJ.

**DIANA PATTON** had a one-woman show during December at Trinity United Church in Warren, NJ.

*Happy Birthday,  
Diana*